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BOROUGH OF BASINGSTOKE



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

for the year

1968





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## HEALTH COMMITTEE

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR (CLLR. J. F. BALDING, J.P.)

ALDERMAN E. KNIGHT (*Chairman*)

ALDERMAN J. W. DOWNS

COUNCILLOR T. BAPTIST

COUNCILLOR J. EDDIE

COUNCILLOR J. W. GREENWOOD

COUNCILLOR MISS N. K. LAWFORD

COUNCILLOR R. V. C. MORRIS (*Vice-Chairman*)

COUNCILLOR R. W. TAYLOR

COUNCILLOR L. J. WESTOBY

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## BASINGSTOKE BOROUGH DISTRICT HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

Members of the Basingstoke Borough Health Committee and

MRS. F. J. WEALE, C.C.

MR. C. K. CAMPBELL-SMITH, C.C.

MRS. C. A. CHANDLER

MISS S. KINGDON

MRS. E. A. LEE

MRS. E. RICHARDSON

M. J. WILLIAMS, ESQ., M.B., B.S.

# **PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF**

## **Medical Officer of Health**

T. E. ROBERTS, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.(OBST).R.C.O.G., D.P.H., D.M.J.  
(also Medical Officer of Health to Basingstoke Rural District  
Council and Assistant County Medical Officer, Hampshire County  
Council)

## **Chief Public Health Inspector**

C. H. DAVID, M.A.P.H.I.  
(also Petroleum and Shops Acts Inspector)

## **Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector**

G. R. HUGHES, M.A.P.H.I.

## **Additional Public Health Inspectors**

D. E. ROSS, M.A.P.H.I.  
P. YEATS, M.A.P.H.I.

## **Pupil Public Health Inspector**

G. J. SILVER

## **Clerical Staff**

MISS E. A. TATLOW (Senior Clerk)  
MRS. C. PURCHASE  
MRS. M. L. SLAUGHTER  
MISS J. TAPLIN

## **Rodent Operative**

P. FAULKNER

TEL. NO. BASINGSTOKE 3232

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Basingstoke.*

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health of your Borough for the year 1968.

### **Vital Statistics**

The expected annual rise of population continued, but for the second year in succession the rise for the current period was less than for that of the preceding year. The main point of interest in reporting this growth is that for the first time in the history of the town, the number of registered births exceeded one thousand in one calendar year. Although the birth rate for England and Wales continued to fall, the local rate remained static. As in the previous year, 47% and 16% of births occurred to mothers under 25 and 21 years of age respectively.

The mortality picture follows the trend set in previous years. This year, like the previous one, over 64% of all deaths occurred in the over sixty-fives, with diseases of the heart and circulatory system accounting for 40% of all deaths.

### **Social and Environmental Circumstances**

During the past number of years criticism has been directed at certain aspects of town development. The older residents see symbols that they have long respected and admired, crumble into oblivion as the march of progress, or perhaps as others would say change, continues. Whichever terminology is used, the price extracted tends to be rather high, especially if measured against the dust-laden atmosphere and the cacophony of sound from bulldozers and mud-spattering lorries that surround us daily.

One, however, has every reason for expecting that when all is completed, with the past tolerated inconveniences merely a memory, that all will be well. This, unfortunately, in numerous instances is not so. We spend the greater part of our lives in our homes, and in this day and age when today's achievement is history of the morrow, it is reasonable to expect that homes are still constructed so as to give only trivial causes for complaint.

It is, therefore, of some concern to record that many complaints of new tenants are justified, especially as these would appear to relate to house design. Numerous calls are received in the Department

relating to dampness, and although one is satisfied beyond all doubt that this is not so, it is difficult to explain areas of mould growth on walls being due to condensation and not to dampness. To the tenant, water on the walls or floor is a justifiable nuisance whatever its nomenclature.

This could well have been reduced in many cases if more thought had been given to the designing of these properties. When one has to heat a bedroom with three exposed walls, the chance of preventing condensation is small. Similarly, the type of window design was never intended to cater for effective ventilation in inclement weather. Being of a sliding nature, this type of open window is certain to let in rain and offers no difficulty to a young child who wishes to get out, or to an intruder.

Some years ago, I drew attention to what I honestly believed to be an undesirable type of development. Although meeting with some opposition, I enjoyed much support. This, however, did not come from the corridors of power of the architectural and design world who shortly afterwards awarded a prize for this particular layout.

Following my latest remarks, I now wait patiently and to note if any new award is forthcoming for this latest design.

I have to conclude, as I do each year, by recording all the help that I have received both from the Public Health Inspectorate and the Clerical Section of my staff, together with the willing co-operation that I receive from all my General Practitioner friends in the town.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

T. E. ROBERTS,  
*Medical Officer of Health*

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Area in Acres	5,580	5,580	5,580	5,580	5,180
Population:					
Registrar General's Estimate, Mid-Year	40,910	38,230	35,420	32,580	30,360
Public Health Department, End of Year	43,060	39,790	37,020	33,990	N.A.
Number of Inhabited Houses (as at April 1st)	13,828	13,023	11,893	10,985	10,105
Rateable Value (as at April 1st)	£ 2,278,865	£ 2,100,030	£ 1,876,358	£ 1,676,307	£ 1,520,098
Product of a Penny Rate (Estimated for Financial Year)	£ 10,375	£ 9,100	£ 8,450	£ 7,675	£ 7,025



# VITAL STATISTICS

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Live Births . . . . .	1026	950	847	854	755
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population . . . . .	25.1	24.8	23.91	26.21	24.86
Still Births—Legitimate . . . . .	14	7	15	9	10
Illegitimate . . . . .	1	1	1	Nil	Nil
Total . . . . .	15	8	16	9	10
Total Live and Still Births . . . . .	1041	958	863	863	765
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births . . . . .	14.6	8.3	18.5	10.4	13.0
Average for England and Wales . . . . .	14.3	14.8	15.4	15.7	16.3
Infant Deaths . . . . .	12	18	15	16	10
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births—					
Legitimate . . . . .	9.7	16.8	16.5	18.7	13.2
Illegitimate . . . . .	2.0	2.1	1.1	Nil	1.3
Total . . . . .	11.7	18.9	17.6	18.7	14.5
Average for England and Wales . . . . .	18.0	18.3	19.0	19.0	20.0
Neonatal (First Four Weeks) Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births . . . . .	8.7	8.4	5.9	8.1	7.9
Average for England and Wales . . . . .	12.3	12.5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Early Neonatal (Deaths under one week) Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births . . . . .	8.7	7.3	5.9	4.6	7.9
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under 1 week combined) per 1,000 Live and Still Births . . . . .	23.0	15.6	24.3	15.0	20.9
Average for England and Wales . . . . .	25.0	25.4	Nil	Nil	Nil
Illegitimate Live Births % of Total Live Births . . . . .	6.2	6.3	3.8	4.7	3.7
Maternal Deaths (including Abortion) . . . . .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births . . . . .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Comparability Factors—Births . . . . .	0.78	0.79	0.81	0.83	0.85
Comparability Factors—Deaths . . . . .	1.58	1.51	1.42	1.31	1.28



## Births

	Male	Female	Total	1967	1966	1965	1964
Live Births—							
Legitimate	510	452	962	890	814	814	727
Illegitimate	31	33	64	60	33	40	28
Birth rate per 1,000 total population							
(corrected)	19.6	19.6	19.36	21.7	21.1		
Average for England and Wales	16.9	17.2	17.7	18.0	18.4		

## NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

	1968	1967	1966	1965
Born at the Shrubbery Maternity Home .	643	610	525	549
Born at home . . . . .	196	170	158	137
Born at Royal Hampshire County Hospital	154	190	167	124
Born elsewhere outside the Borough .	1	1	3	8
	994	971	853	818

## POSITION OF BIRTH IN THE FAMILY

1st		2nd		3rd		4th		5th & Over	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
195	148	167	157	94	110	39	32	25	27
343		324		204		71		52	
(344)		(344)		(173)		(64)		(46)	
(289)		(309)		(142)		(62)		(51)	

## PLACE WHERE INDIVIDUAL BIRTHS OCCURRED (Expressed as Percentages)

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th & Over
Shrubbery M.H.	79.3 (71.2)	35.8 (58.4)	56.3 (54.3)	60.5 (65.4)	63.4 (60.8)
Home	4.9 ( 3.7)	24.2 (25.3)	31.3 (30.6)	28.1 (20.6)	17.3 ( 6.6)
R.H.C.H.	15.4 (24.1)	18.0 (16.2)	12.4 (15.1)	11.4 (14.0)	19.3 (32.6)
Outside Borough	0.4 ( 1.0)	— ( — )	— ( — )	— ( — )	— ( — )

( ) indicates figures for 1967

## AREA ALLOCATION OF BIRTHS IN THE BOROUGH - POLLING WARDS

	Eastrop	Chapel	Norden	Westfield	Fairfields	South Ham
1968	54	76	325	222	187	130
1967	68	107	195	238	214	149
1966	40	99	91	237	174	212

# AVERAGE AGE OF MOTHERS AT EACH CONFINEMENT

Up to 20 years	150 (157) (112)	29 — 30 years	76 (79) (84)
21 — 22 years	155 (149) (114)	31 — 32 years	62 (49) (43)
23 — 24 years	167 (149) (123)	33 — 35 years	51 (44) (54)
25 — 26 years	170 (192) (171)	36 — 40 years	49 (41) (38)
27 — 28 years	106 (105) (109)	41 and over	8 (6) (5)

( ) indicates figures for 1967 and 1966

## Deaths

	Male	Female	Total	1967	1966	1965	1964
From all causes	176	133	309	270	272	244	263
Death rate per 1,000 population (corrected)			11.8	7.0	10.9	9.6	11.0
Average for England and Wales			11.9	11.2	11.7	11.5	11.3

## ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

Code No.	Disease	Male	Female	Total
B5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	—	1
B6	Other Tuberculosis, including late effects	1	1	2
B19 (1)	Malignant Neoplasm — Stomach	3	1	4
B19 (2)	Malignant Neoplasm — Lung, Bronchus	15	2	17
B19 (3)	Malignant Neoplasm — Breast	—	5	5
B19 (4)	Malignant Neoplasm — Uterus	—	2	2
B19 (5)	Leukaemia	—	2	2
B19 (6)	Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	13	19	32
B20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	1	2
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	1	1	2
B23	Anaemias	2	—	2
B46 (4)	Other diseases of Nervous System, etc.	3	—	3
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	—	1
B27	Hypertensive Disease	4	10	14
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	41	26	67
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	13	15	28
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	15	16	31
B46 (5)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	10	4	14
B31	Influenza	1	1	2
B32	Pneumonia	10	6	16
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	12	2	14
B33 (2)	Asthma	—	1	1
B46 (6)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	1	3
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	—	1
B46 (7)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	2	4
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	1	3
B39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
B46 (8)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	1	2
B42	Congenital Anomalies	6	2	8
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc.	2	2	4
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	—	2
B45	Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	—	1	1
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	3	6
BE48	All Other Accidents	5	4	9
BE49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	2	1	3

## AGE DISTRIBUTION

Group	Male	Female	Total
Under 1 year	7	5	12
1—4	4	—	4
5—14	1	1	2
15—24	2	3	5
25—34	2	2	4
35—44	7	1	8
45—54	16	10	26
55—64	36	15	51
65—74	56	25	81
75 and over	45	71	116
Total	176	133	309

Average age of all Deaths . . . 65.6 (66.6) (64.8)

Average age of Male Deaths . . . 64.9 (66.4) (62.6)

Average age of Female Deaths . . . 66.3 (66.8) (67.1)

The figures in brackets refer to 1967 and 1966

## MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS - Deaths associated with:

Classification	No. of Deaths			Average Age at Death		Age Range
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	
Stomach	3	1	4	71	69	62 - 85
Lung and Bronchus	15	2	17	61	64	41 - 73
Breast	—	5	5	—	68	51 - 85
Uterus	—	2	2	—	60	47 - 74
Others	13	19	32	66	67	42 - 85

## CAUSES OF DEATHS IN INFANTS

Cause	24 hours	Within 1 week	1 - 4 Weeks	1 Month - 1 Year
Asphyxia	—	—	1	1
Prematurity	5	1	—	—
Congenital Abnormality	—	1	—	2
Others	1	—	—	—

# EPIDEMIOLOGY

## (1) General Health

(a) Record of new claims to sickness benefit received at Basingstoke National Insurance Office:

Month	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
January . . .	1608*	928*	980	960	886
February . . .	1288	792	1246	791	697
March . . .	1273	693	1206*	812*	827*
April . . .	924*	740	893	739	725
May . . .	865	674*	697*	645	507
June . . .	713	690	657	600*	639*
July . . .	756*	696	668	579	437
August . . .	713	556*	585*	520*	410
September . . .	640	757	671	629	670*
October . . .	856*	904*	823	799	669
November . . .	950	849	818*	816*	755
December . . .	976*	734	665	740	691*

\*Five-week periods reduced to four weeks for comparison

Compared with 1967, there has been a substantial increase in the number of sickness claims, which cannot be correlated with an increase in the labour force. This is mainly accounted for by a fairly heavy incidence in the early months of the year, a situation which did not arise during the preceding year.

The rise could not be attributed to any specific condition, but rather embraced a variety of diagnosis popularly and collectively described as "Winter Illness".

## (2) Infectious Diseases

(a) Notifications received during the year were :

Dysentery . . . . .	1
Measles . . . . .	14
Scarlet Fever . . . . .	4
Tuberculosis—Respiratory . . . . .	1
Whooping Cough . . . . .	19
Infective Hepetitis . . . . .	4
	—
Total . . . . .	43
	—

During the year, notification of Infective Hepetitis, which had originally been confined to selected parts of the country, was extended to cover all areas. Routine enquiries were made to ascertain whether any immunisation procedures had been undertaken during the previous months. Nothing positive emerged from the investigations.

(b) **Tuberculosis :** The following table indicates the incidence of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year :

Year	Category 0		Category 1		Non-Tuberculous	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1968	1	2	1	—	17	10
1967	1	2	2	1	16	18

The Mass X-ray Mobile Unit holds regular sessions at Hackwood Road (Council Chamber Car Park) on the following days:—

1st Tuesday in each month . . . . . 16.45 - 18.30 hrs.  
 3rd Tuesday in each month . . . . . 11.30 - 13.30 hrs.

Year	Total No. X-rayed	No. of Cases of Significant P.T. discovered		Incidence of Significant P.T. per 1,000 Examines
		Male	Female	
1968	7,165	2	2	0.55
1967	4,432	3	3	1.35
1966	6,885	10	1	1.60
1965	4,811	4	5	1.87
1964	4,178	11	5	3.38

### (3) Vaccinations and Immunisations

The immunisation programme was again temporarily put out of its stride by yet another episode of "immunisation roulette", leaving the doctor to explain to the mother that the order recommended for a course of injections for her elder child was no longer in use and had been replaced by another. Remembering the different number of schedules that have been available, one was tempted to state that if a younger child of the same family were to attend in a year's time, yet another schedule might be in use.

The long-awaited arrival of the Measles Vaccine was preceded by much national publicity and followed up with insufficient amounts being available for a considerable time. The vaccine was supplied in doses more suited for dealing with a few individual cases rather than for a national immunisation campaign.

(a) **B.C.G. :** During the year, children in certain age groups in Secondary Schools were offered B.C.G. after the need had been ascertained by Heaf Testing.

Year	No. of Children in Selected Group	Parental Refusal, Absent at Tuberculosis Testing or B.C.G. Sessions	Positives	B.C.G. Vaccinated
1968	756	187	100	469
1967	660	159	47	454
1966	1,063	266	53	744
1965	509	—	—	338



(b) Smallpox

Age	Primary				Re-Vaccination			
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1968	1967	1966	1965
Under 1 year	1	25	50	69	—	—	—	—
1 year	288	517	558	341	—	—	—	—
2 - 4 years	59	113	114	92	4	5	2	4
5 - 14 years	4	26	52	20	74	93	75	6

(c) Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Course		1968		1967		1966		1965
Primary Course	General Practitioners	348 }	907	382 }	956	291 }	830	786
	Local Authority Doctors	559 }		574 }		539 }		
Booster Course	General Practitioners	549 }	2,205	455 }	1,927	244 }	1,596	1,344
	Local Authority Doctors	1,656 }		1,472 }		1,352 }		

(d) Poliomyelitis

Course		1968		1967		1966	1965
Primary Course	General Practitioners	341 }	1,235	288 }	902	762	809
	Local Authority Doctors	894 }		614 }			
Booster Course	General Practitioners	291 }	980	208 }	776	762	651
	Local Authority Doctors	689 }		568 }			

(e) Measles

	1 year	2 - 4 years	5 - 15 years	Total
General Practitioners	40	145	65	250
Local Authority Doctors	81	309	690	1,080

Year	Bramblys Grange		South Ham		Elmwood Way		Kempshott		Oakridge		Martin Close		Chineham		Total	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	C	D
1968	837	6876	510	2931	429	4251	353	1605	396	2582	383	3924	223	2038	3131	24207
1967	912	6526	334	3395	395	3050	257	1165	605	2655	154	1973	—	—	2657	18764
1966	863	6166	617	5845	464	3280	343	1334	384	2200	—	—	—	—	2671	18825
1965	1050	6311	599	4616	312	1683	313	1447	76	458	—	—	—	—	2350	14515
1964	851	6501	602	4287	230	1390	327	1509	—	—	—	—	—	—	2010	13689

A—Total No. of children who attend

B—Total No. of attendances

C—Totals of A

D—Totals of B

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

### General Health Services

The District Health Sub-Committee continued to function throughout the year; lacking as it does any executive powers, a number of people questioned its value.

In parts of the County where the population growth and development have not proceeded at such a pace, a good case has been made for terminating them. In this area, however, the Council should always keep a vocal avenue of approach open to voice any objections or proposals, they may wish to raise on the personal health services. It would, indeed, be wise to always maintain some (administratively more convenient) channel of communication.

### Maternity, Child Health and Health Visiting

To cater for the expanding northern area of the town, two new weekly clinic sessions began to operate from Chineham House. Its success was soon evident. The increasing birth rate is reflected in increased attendances at these Clinics. The total number of attendances during the year exceeded the previous year by nearly thirty per cent.

During the year, the attachment of Local Health Authority Staff to General Practices continued. Except when a vacancy arises, all practices in the town now have District Nurses, Midwives, Health Visitors and Mental Welfare Officers attached to them. This is yet another progressive step towards the final goal of complete integration.

Clinic	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Bramblys Grange				X	X				X	X
South Ham		X				X				
Kempshott			X							
Elmwood Way		X				X				
Oakridge				X						
Martin Close								X		X
Chineham House							X	X		

A further step in the right direction appeared when it was announced that final plans for the first Health Centre had been approved.

It is hoped to start building early in 1969, and when completed, will cater for twelve Practitioners.

National Dried Milk, Orange Juice and Cod Liver Oil continue to be distributed largely by the W.V.S. at their Centre at 55 Church Street. Other food distributing centres are located at Bramblys Grange Health Clinic, Elmwood Child Health Clinic, Kempshott Post Office and the Chemist at Kings Road, South Ham.



I should like to pay tribute once again to all the numerous voluntary workers who give up so much of their time at Child Health and other Clinics.

### District Nursing

The following table shows the numbers of cases attended and visits paid by the General Nurses and Midwives.

Year	Midwifery		General Nursing	
	Cases	Visits	Cases	Vists
1968	294	6669	580	14966
1967	304	4774	593	12572
1966	291	4419	601	11211
1965	208	3616	351	10141
1964	218	3868	369	8117

### Home Help Service

Year	No. of Applications Received and Investigated	No. not requiring Assistance	Advanced bookings at end of the year
1968	193	66	6
1967	165	44	6
1966	172	39	10
1965	152	35	13
1964	144	37	7

### Origin of Notification

Year	Family Doctor	Medical Social Worker	District Nurse/ Midwife/ Health Visitor	Statutory Organisations & Social Workers	Nat. Asst. Board	Other	Total
1968	82	34	40	1	1	35	193
1967	89	29	32	9	1	5	165
1966	99	24	33	10	1	5	172
1965	88	13	31	3	3	15	153
1964	80	24	26	3	2	9	144

Type of Case		1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Short Term	Maternity	38	20	31	33	35
	General Sickness	9	12	8	13	8
	Post Hospital	13	17	11	7	9
	Child Care	6	5	4	6	1
	Special	6	1	1	—	—
Long Term	Chronic Sickness	29	29	27	19	18
	Aged Sickness	207	187	175	161	156
	Aged Infirm	1	1	1	1	1
	Tuberculosis	1	1	—	1	2
	Special	1	1	—	1	2
Total Number of cases assisted		310	273	258	241	230

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Number of cases completed	126	104	106	103	98
Number of Home Helpers in Register at end of year	60	50	47	44	43

## Nursery and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948

This legislation has been the corner-stone concerning the daily care of children under five. Some disquiet has been expressed over the past years by various organizations over ill-defined limits which are included in it.

A review of this legislation, incorporating specific limitations, was long overdue. This need has now been met in the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968. Such ill-defined terms as "substantial part of the day" have now been replaced by "more than two hours per day".

The effect of this legislation will mean that even when the single child is cared for, the Minder will have to be registered. The new pattern of registration which is emerging is that of the Child Minder who only wishes to care for one child. One hopes that knowledge of this new legislation has permeated through to these individuals who undertake the daily care of numerous children in unsuitable surroundings. I feel that these are the ones which demand the closest attention of the Health Authorities.

Year	Number of Nurseries	Number of Children Permitted
1968	28	569
1967	21	464
1966	19	410
1965	13	261
1964	11	176

## Family Planning

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Patients seen	2287	2526	2044	1508	1317
New Patients	431	581	426	316	283
G.P. referred	146	141	108	139	83
Pre-Maritals	58	—	—	—	—
Patients requesting I.U.D.	61	—	—	—	—
Cervical Smears taken	189 (1 positive)	—	—	—	—
Patients on Oral Contraceptives	196	—	—	—	—

A new clinic was opened during October for unmarried young people at Hackwood Road Hospital. Four sessions were held and six new patients attended before the end of the year.

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Rainfall

The monthly rainfall figures and the annual total for the five preceding years are as follows:—

January . . .	2.32 in.	July . . .	2.46 in.
February . . .	1.97 in.	August . . .	2.25 in.
March . . .	1.08 in.	September . . .	7.36 in.
April . . .	2.51 in.	October . . .	3.08 in.
May . . .	2.70 in.	November . . .	2.02 in.
June . . .	1.33 in.	December . . .	3.79 in.

**Total for 1968      32.87 inches**

1967 . . .	35.79 in.
1966 . . .	34.27 in.
1965 . . .	29.47 in.
1964 . . .	23.28 in.
1963 . . .	32.36 in.

### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The trunk sewer across the Common from Hackwood Road Estate to Basing Road which will serve the Southern area of the district was completed. As a result one pumping station has been suspended. A length of soil sewer was laid through Worting Village as far as Church Lane.

Site investigation work was carried out in connection with a proposed trunk sewer from Victory Square to the A.30 along Winchester Road. Work also continued in the preparation of the scheme for the extension of the sewage treatment works which it is hoped to start during 1969.

### Public Cleansing

The weekly collection of house and trade refuse was maintained, most of the refuse being disposed of by controlled tipping in the Rural District's tip at Marnel Dell and the remainder being burnt in the Corporation's Refuse Destructor.

The construction of the new Refuse Incinerator at Wildmoor has now commenced and is due to be completed in the Autumn of 1969. When in full operation it will deal with all the refuse from the Borough and Rural District areas.

Public highways and footpaths were cleaned by mechanical and hand sweeping as required.

## Old People's Welfare

I am grateful to Mr. Dean, Senior Area Social Worker, for the following Annual Statistics for the Borough:

Visits, Applications and Admissions to Welfare (Part III)  
Accommodation:

Year	Visits	Applications	Admissions	Section 47
1968	243	40	35	—
1967	189	38	27	—
1966	261	42	22	1
1965	126	25	17	—
1964	157	18	20	—

Investigations made and referred to:

Home Help . . . . .	1	(8)	(10)
Meals on Wheels . . . . .	34	(30)	(14)
Hospital Bed Service . . . . .	—	(—)	(4)
Housing Department . . . . .	—	(2)	(—)
Ministry of Social Security . . . . .	11	(8)	(12)
Placed in Lodgings . . . . .	—	(2)	(—)
Blind Visitors . . . . .	1	(—)	(1)
Miscellaneous . . . . .	18	(14)	(22)
Visits in respect of Group Dwellings	23	(—)	(140)

It is a pleasure once again to record that the previous good work undertaken by the Old People's Welfare Committee continued throughout 1968.

There are approximately 1,800 old persons on the register, all of whom have been seen at least once during the year.

A Day Club on alternate Tuesdays has been started and is attended by 20 pensioners. It is only the lack of voluntary drivers which prevents this service increasing. A similar effort has also begun at Dee Side.

The welfare of the elderly is not the sole concern of middle aged individuals, as the younger section of the population are also keen participants. Pupils from the Shrubbery and Cranbourne Lane Schools visit and cook meals for a number of pensioners.

A final note, worthy of mention is the effort made to take out each Friday afternoon, 34 housebound persons. This social education experiment is now in its third year and its success can be summed up by the remark of a person of 92 years of age as her "tonic afternoon".

## Chiropody Clinics

Year	Bramblys Grange	Windsor Court	Kempshott Village Hall	Total
1968	97	41	12	150
1967	52	43	11	106
1966	47	30	11	88
1965	47	14	2	63
1964	39	—	—	39

## Chiropody Attendances

Year	Bramblys Grange	Windsor Court	Kempshott Village Hall	Total
1968	761	347	99	1207
1967	424	360	94	878
1966	374	257	95	730
1965	379	125	23	527
1964	305	—	—	305

The smooth, efficient and friendly running of all aspects of this Committee's work is a shining every-day example of the voluntary spirit that exists in this town.

## National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

There was one application made under this Act during the year.

## HEALTH EDUCATION

### (1) Food Hygiene

A further course of lectures leading to the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene's 'Certificate in Food Handling', was given at the Technical College. Members of the Department were also asked to give individual talks to interested organizations.

### (2) Home Safety

Home Safety Instruction during 1968/69 has been considerably increased. Lectures have been given to various Women's Organizations in Basingstoke.

An important section of the public to whom Home Safety instruction is essential is the youth of Basingstoke. Lectures have been given, other lectures are arranged, and publicity material offered to Scouts, Guides, Cubs and Brownies. The Youth Organizations are becoming increasingly aware of the facilities available to them, and are making use of them.

Home Safety instruction is also given to Tufty Clubs and Groups, of which there are now 15 in Basingstoke.

Instruction to the children is preparing them for adult life, but the present day adults also need instruction and it is very difficult to give this to the older persons, who by the way appear to KNOW IT ALL. However, as with the youth organizations, adult organizations are becoming more aware of the facilities offered by the Safety Officer and more lectures are being requested.



## HOUSING

I am indebted to the Basingstoke Development Group for the following information:

During the year 1968 the following new dwelling-houses were completed:

### *'Borough' Built*

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Traditional Type Houses .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	178
Traditional Type Flats .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	146
Traditional Type Bungalows	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	5
Maisonettes . . . .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	20
	<hr/> Nil	<hr/> Nil	<hr/> Nil	<hr/> Nil	<hr/> 349

### *'Group' Built*

Traditional Type Houses .	601	643	906	682	434
Traditional Type Bungalows	Nil	3	42	Nil	17
Traditional Type Flats .	194	215	55	Nil	Nil
	<hr/> 795	<hr/> 861	<hr/> 1003	<hr/> 682	<hr/> 451

### *'Privately' Built*

Houses . . . .	201	183	40	114	60
Flats . . . .	4	2	Nil	Nil	23
	<hr/> 205	<hr/> 185	<hr/> 40	<hr/> 114	<hr/> 83
Housing Associations . .	29	4	116	Nil	Nil
	<hr/> 29	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 116	<hr/> Nil	<hr/> Nil
TOTAL . . . .	1029	1050	1159	796	883
	<hr/> 1029	<hr/> 1050	<hr/> 1159	<hr/> 796	<hr/> 883

# **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

## **Public Health Inspections in the Borough**

### **Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963**

The Borough Council licensed one premise under this Act for the boarding of dogs. The premise was inspected on a number of occasions during the year to ensure compliance with the provisions prescribed in the Licence.

### **Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 Caravan Sites Act, 1968**

There are four licensed sites in the Borough on which 58 caravans are sited. One site with the Planning Permission expiring in 1970 and licensed for 16 caravans having been acquired for residential development has ceased to function as a caravan site.

Apart from one site containing one caravan, there should be only one licensed site containing 35 caravans in use next year in the Borough, planning permission for which expires in 1970.

The Council's Caravan Park at Attwood Close continues to serve a useful purpose accommodating 95 caravans.

The Caravan Sites Act 1968 came into force during the year. Part I contains provisions for the protection of tenants from eviction and requires that at least four weeks notice is given to occupiers of caravans. The Act provides for penalties for harassment or illegal eviction of caravan occupiers. Although Part 2 of the Act has not come into operation it contains legislation for the provision of Gipsy Encampments, by certain Local Authorities.

### **Clean Air Act, 1956**

#### **Applications for Prior Approval and Notifications of Boiler Installation**

No. of applications received and approved under Section 3	5
No. of Notifications under Section 3 to install boilers	12
No. of plans and applications received and approved regarding chimney heights — Section 10	17

Thirteen complaints were received during the year concerning nuisance from air pollution. Complaints in the main were from garden bonfires and the burning of trade waste at industrial premises and these were all successfully dealt with by informal action. The nuisance of dust and fumes from a large industrial firm in the Borough will, I am pleased to say, be resolved next year. The Company concerned have authorised the purchase of plant to eliminate this nuisance.



Factories Act, 1937/1961

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	125	26	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' premises)	36	—	—	—
Total	176	26	—	—

DEFECTS :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	1	—
Other Offences	1	—	—	—	—
Total	1	—	—	1	—

Part VIII

Outwork — Wearing Apparel (Making, etc.) . . . . . 26

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Inspection of Food

Frequent visits were made to food retail shops and a food distribution depot in the Borough resulting in the following types and quantities of food, totalling 10 tons 2 cwts. 1 st. 2 lbs. being condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	sts.	lbs.
Meat from wholesale and retail premises	7	13	2	1	6
Cooked meats and meat products . . . . .					11
Canned meats . . . . .		6	1	1	13
Other canned food . . . . .		15	1	1	6
Fish (Fresh) . . . . .				2	—
Fruit and Vegetables (Fresh) . . . . .					13
Other Foods . . . . .	1	6	—	—	9

## Imported Food Regulations 1968

These Regulations came into force during the year and are intended to facilitate the inspection of foods imported into this country. Previously imported foods were inspected at docks and airports but with the ever increasing transport of food in containers unnecessary delays were occurring. As a result these Regulations allow (subject to Custom's clearance) for containers being despatched direct to their destination in the United Kingdom when it becomes the responsibility of the Local Authority for the area to examine any imported food.

This legislation has resulted in additional duties for the Public Health Inspectorate in this Borough as frequent inspections at various times are required at a large food distribution depot.

## Food Complaints

The Department dealt with 46 complaints made by members of the public concerning the sale of food. Each complaint received a full investigation including interviews with retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers. In some instances the offending foods were referred to the Public Analyst or the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Laboratories at Reading for further detailed examination and identification purposes. The results of this procedure have been found to be of great assistance in deciding the appropriate action which should be taken.

## Legal Proceedings in connection with offences under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

A food retailer was fined £20 for selling sausages containing mould.

A manufacturer was fined £30 with £15. 15s. 0d. costs for selling sweets containing glass.

A retailer was fined £20 with £15. 15s. 0d. costs for selling yoghurt in a mouldy condition.

A manufacturer/retailer was fined £20 with £10. 10s. 0d. costs for selling a meat pie containing a maggot.

A retailer was fined £25 with £5. 5s. 0d. costs for selling a salad roll containing a maggot.

Total	.	.	Fines	£115.	0s.	0d.
			Costs	£47.	5s.	0d.

## Milk

There are 41 registered distributors of milk and cream in the Borough, 37 of whom are, in addition, licensed on behalf of the Hampshire County Council (as the Food and Drug Authority) and in accordance with the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1963/65, to sell designated milks.

## Milk Sampling

The following table shows the designation, numbers and results of milk samples taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination:—

Types of Milk		Untreated	Pasteurised	Sterilised	Total
Number of Samples		4	16	1	21
Phosphatase Test	Satis. Unsatis.	— —	16 —	— —	16 —
Methylene Blue Test	Satis. Unsatis.	2 2*	13 3*	— —	15 5*
Turbidity Test	Satis. Unsatis.	— —	— —	1 —	1 —
Test for Brucella Abortus	Neg. Pos.	3 —	— —	— —	3 —

\* Test declared void by Laboratory

## Ice Cream

12 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for analysis with the following results:—

Grade 1 — 1	Grade 2 — 5
Grade 3 — 2	Grade 4 — 4

In each case the samples reported as unsatisfactory were from itinerant vendors and the manufacturers concerned were notified so as to secure better hygienic standards of the product.

I am grateful to Mr. J. S. Preston, Chief Sampling Officer for the Hampshire County Council, for the following information relating to Food & Drugs Sampling during the year 1967/68.

“During the year ended 31st March, 1968, the samples procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, included 124 within the Borough of Basingstoke.

## Milk Samples

26 samples of milk, including three of “Channel Islands”, were obtained. All were found to be satisfactory.

## Miscellaneous Samples

98 samples of articles other than milk were obtained, four being the subject of adverse reports.

The adverse reports were in respect of:—

- (1) A sample of Stuffed Pork Roll, which was submitted as the result of a consumer complaint. It contained foreign matter consisting of a small piece of animal skin to which hair was attached. Proceedings resulted in a fine of £30 together with costs amounting to £14. 11s. 0d.

- (2) A sample of Rum which contained 1% excess water. This result may have been due to some loss of strength during prolonged storage and the circumstances were not thought to warrant legal proceedings. Subsequent checks have proved satisfactory.
- (3) A sample of Seville Orange Marmalade which was found to be slightly deficient in soluble solids. The attention of the vendors was drawn to the results.
- (4) A sample of Gin submitted on behalf of the owners of a private club who suspected adulteration by a member of the staff. The result, which confirmed the presence of excess water, was given to the club owners for action by them.

## General

In addition to the samples taken under the Food & Drugs Act, the usual attention was given to the labels and descriptions of food and drugs under the provisions of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act. There were no serious complaints concerning these matters.

## Pesticide Residues

The results obtained during the first year of the recent programme of sampling of food stuffs for pesticide residues indicated a satisfactory situation in the County area. Full results for the second year are not yet available."

## Food Hygiene Regulations 1955

A total of 780 visits were made during the year to various food premises. Generally the standard of hygiene of premises was found to be satisfactory. 118 infringements of the Food Hygiene Regulations were found on inspection but these were of a minor character and were dealt with by informal action.

### Summary

Total number of visits to food premises including mobile shops	780
Number of premises and vehicles where infringements were found	43
Number of preliminary notices served for structural defects	46
Number of verbal notices	83
Number of defects and other infringements remedied	86

## General Inspections

As a result of 977 complaints received and routine inspections, 203 notices (written and verbal), excluding notices under the Housing Act 1964, were served to remedy matters coming within the purview of the Public Health Department.

The Health Committee authorised the service of a Statutory Notice under Section 93 of the Public Health Act 1936 enforcing repairs to a dwelling house.



## **HOUSING ACTS, 1957/1964**

46 dwelling houses in which defects were found have been made fit as the result of informal action.

### **Improvement Areas**

Following the declaration of three Improvement Areas by the Council in previous years a further eight Standard Grants and eleven Discretionary Grants were paid to owners to properties in these areas during the year.

Where owners had not agreed voluntarily to improve their premises Immediate Improvement Notices were served requiring the necessary improvements to be carried out within a period of twelve months.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government are preparing a Bill at the present time to amend the present compulsory improvement Schemes for tenanted properties and it is anticipated that new legislation will come into force next year.

### **Improvement Grants**

During the year the Council approved a total of 12 Standard and 17 Discretionary Improvement Grants.

### **Houses-in-Multiple-Occupation**

At the present time there is no serious problem in the Borough with this type of accommodation.

An inspection of such a premise did reveal an excess of persons resident and it was necessary for the Health Committee to authorise the serving of a Statutory Notice to control the number of persons residing in the premises.

## **LICENSING ACT, 1964**

Six visits were made to premises requiring registration under this Act. The Borough Council are required to report mainly on the grounds of hygiene and public health as to the suitability of the premises but it was not necessary for any objection to be made to the Magistrates regarding any of the applications.

## **NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960**

There was a slight increase in the number of complaints received by the Department. Of the ten complaints made, five were concerned with noise from industrial plant, two as the result of barking dogs, a neighbour using do-it-yourself tools at unreasonable hours and two complaints of noise caused by motor vehicle "tuners".

All complaints were investigated and successfully dealt with by informal action.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The number of premises registered under this Act at the end of the year totalled 393 of which 67 were new registrations. There were 226 visits made to these premises including 55 general inspections resulting in the finding of 213 defects. These mainly consisted of redecoration; improvements to lighting and ventilation; provision of washing facilities and thermometers; all were successfully dealt with by informal action.

Many matters under this Act are of a structural nature and as a result there is close co-operation with the Borough Surveyor's Department to ensure that plans submitted in connection with the building of all new shops and offices are examined by Officers of this Department to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Act.

The large developments being undertaken in the Borough have shown the desirability of co-ordinating meetings of Architects, Heating and Ventilation Engineers, Fire Authority and H.M. Inspector of Factories together with the Council's own officers. Meetings of this kind are proving very successful in that they provide an efficient and informative method of dealing at one time with all the legislative matter involved with major development schemes.

## PEST CONTROL

### General

390 complaints were received during 1968 and 2,776 visits (including surveys) were made to various premises including dwelling houses, schools, agricultural and business premises.

In connection with rodent control 2,658 poisoned baits were laid resulting in 416 "complete takes" and 1,014 "part takes".

As in the previous years a free service treatment was given to private dwellings. A charge of 5s.0d. per hour (minimum charge 5s.0d.) for the treatment of business premises was made.

The frequent inspections made in areas where major demolition is undertaken to identify as quickly as possible any rodent infestations has resulted in no serious outbreaks occurring.

### Treatment of Sewers

Of the 124 manholes treated for the 10% tests only 3 showed evidence of an infestation.

Further treatment of the three infested manholes, together with adjoining manholes, was carried out and no further infestation discovered.

The Council continued their membership of the North Hants Pest Control Committee and your representatives attended all meetings held during the year.

**Miscellaneous Infestations (other than vermin)**

A total of 113 infestations under this heading including 15 wasps nests were dealt with during the year. In addition 18 feral pigeons were trapped in the town centre.

**PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951**

There are three premises licensed in accordance with this Act in the Borough. One of these premises trades in a variety of pets; the remaining licences are issued to a person trading in tropical fish only.

**PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928**

64 premises are licensed to store petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures. 315 visits were made to these premises during the year to ensure compliance with the conditions of the licence with special regard to the safe storage and handling of these dangerous liquids.

**THE GAME ACT, 1831**

There are 7 premises from which persons are licensed to deal in game within the Borough.

**Water Samples**

4 samples of mains water and 9 samples of well water were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and all were reported as satisfactory.

**Swimming Pools**

10 samples of water taken from the West Ham Swimming Pool were submitted for bacteriological examination. One sample was reported as containing a slight unsatisfactory bacterial content which was corrected, the remaining samples being reported as satisfactory.

In addition, 6 water samples were taken from private swimming pools, all being reported as satisfactory. 14 water samples were taken from school swimming pools, 5 of which were reported as having an unsatisfactory bacterial count, the remaining samples being reported as satisfactory.

**Drainage**

**Tests**

Smoke	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Coloured Water	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1



## Infected Rooms and Articles

Rooms disinfected . . . . .	1
Miscellaneous articles disinfected . . . . .	2

## Infestations

Rooms disinfested . . . . .	192
Bedding disinfested . . . . .	2
Miscellaneous disinfestations . . . . .	73

## TABLE I

### *Classified Statement of Premises Inspected:*

Inspections under Housing Acts . . . . .	142
Inspections under the Public Health Acts . . . . .	528
Works in progress . . . . .	5
Re-inspections . . . . .	507
Food Premises . . . . .	780
In connection with Infectious Diseases . . . . .	87
Shops Acts . . . . .	64
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963 . . . . .	226
Petroleum Act . . . . .	315
Factories Act . . . . .	26
Noise Abatement Act 1960 . . . . .	82
Out-Workers . . . . .	8
Houses-in-Multiple Occupation . . . . .	14
Dairies & Milk Shops . . . . .	28
Schools . . . . .	13
Common Lodging House . . . . .	1
Verminous Premises . . . . .	37
Drain Tests . . . . .	8
Movable Dwellings . . . . .	67
Ice Cream Premises . . . . .	15
Watercourses and Water Sampling . . . . .	20
Clean Air Act 1956 . . . . .	118
Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963 . . . . .	4
Licensing Act 1964 . . . . .	6
Pet Animals Act 1951 . . . . .	7
Miscellaneous visits . . . . .	556
Interviews . . . . .	1076
Pest Control . . . . .	360
Total	5100

TABLE II

*Defective Conditions Recorded:*

*Water Closets—*

Defective flushing cisterns . . . . .	1
Reconstruction and repairs . . . . .	9

*Drains—*

Choked drains . . . . .	11
Defective drains . . . . .	4
Inspection Chambers repaired . . . . .	1

*Dustbins—*

Defective . . . . .	1
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*Dampness—*

Defective roofs . . . . .	29
Defective gutters and rain-water pipes . . . . .	16

*Food Hygiene Regulations—*

Food rooms repaired . . . . .	38
Miscellaneous infringements . . . . .	80

*Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963—*

Abstract Posted . . . . .	15
Accommodation for clothing . . . . .	4
Facilities for taking meals provided . . . . .	1
First Aid Equipment . . . . .	14
Lighting improved . . . . .	46
Machinery safety precautions . . . . .	2
Suitable seats provided . . . . .	5
Temperature improved . . . . .	4
Thermometers provided . . . . .	15
Structural alterations & re-decorations . . . . .	69
Sanitary facilities . . . . .	20
Washing facilities . . . . .	7
Staircases & Passages . . . . .	4
Water Supply . . . . .	7

*Petroleum Acts, 1928/1936—*

Notices provided . . . . .	3
Provide Fire Fighting Equipment . . . . .	2
Miscellaneous Infringements . . . . .	13

*General—*

Defective etc., walls and ceilings	. . . . .	133
Defective Floors	. . . . .	16
Defective doors	. . . . .	17
Defective stoves and fireplaces	. . . . .	7
Defective roofs	. . . . .	29
Defective chimneys	. . . . .	15
Defective windows	. . . . .	55
Accumulations	. . . . .	22
Yards repaired and cleansed	. . . . .	11
Defective sinks and baths	. . . . .	15
Miscellaneous	. . . . .	36

I should like to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued interest and support during the year; also for the co-operation of the Corporation Officers, and for the loyalty and assistance of the Health Department Staff.

C. H. DAVID  
*Chief Public Health Inspector.*







